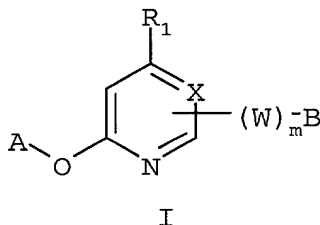


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of increasing the efficacy of a herbicidal compound of formula I



wherein

A and B each independently represent a phenyl, pyridyl, pyrazolyl or thienyl ring being optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms, alkyl, haloalkyl or haloalkoxy groups;

R1 represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or an alkyl or alkoxy group;

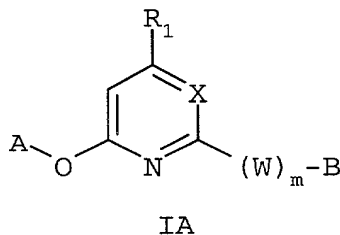
X represents CH or N;

W represents -O-, -OCH2- or -CONH-, and

m is 0 or 1

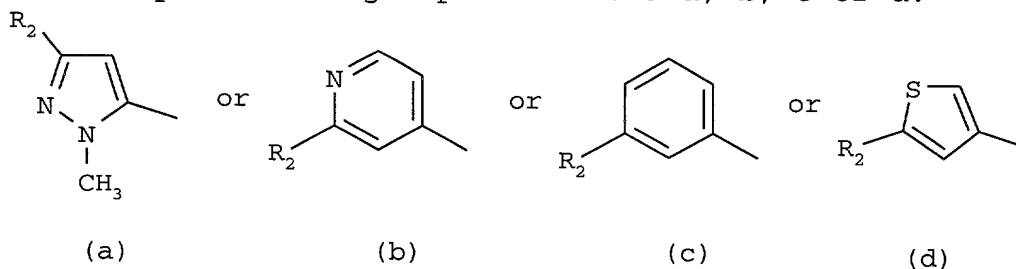
which comprises applying an effective amount of said herbicidal compound directly to the soil in the form of a solid granule or powder which contains said herbicidal compound and at least one inert solid carrier.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein said herbicidal compound I has the structural formula IA



wherein

A represents a group of formula a, b, c or d:



wherein R₂ is a halogen atom or a C1-3 haloalkyl or C1-3 haloalkoxy group, most preferred a chlorine atom, or a trifluoromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, trifluoromethoxy or difluoromethoxy group.

3. The method according to claim 2

wherein

A and B each independently represent a phenyl being optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms, alkyl, haloalkyl or haloalkoxy groups;

R₁ represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or an alkyl or alkoxy group;

X represents CH or N; and

W represents -CONH-, and

m is 1.

4. The method according to claim 3

wherein the herbicidal compound IA is selected from the group consisting of

2',4'-difluro-2-(α,α,α -trifluoro-m-tolyloxy)-nicotinamide (diflufenican);

N-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[3-trifluoromethylphenoxy]-2-pyridine carboxamide (picolinafen), and

4-(3-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-pyrimidin (TTP).

5. The method according to claim 1 wherein said solid carrier is selected from the group consisting of

clays such as kaolin or bentonite, silica, inorganic salts, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinylacetate, cyclodextrin, sugar and mixtures or co-polymers thereof.

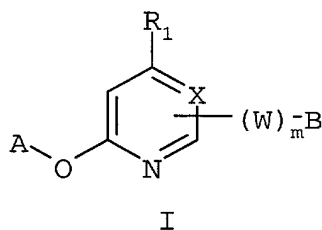
6. The method according to claim 1 wherein the solid granule or powder comprises about
- (a) 0.1 to 100 g/kg of a herbicidal compound of formula I; and
 - (b) 900 to 999.9 g/kg of at least one inert solid carrier and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.

7. The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound of formula I is admixed with a second active compound which is selected from the group consisting of acifluorfen, aclonifen, alachlor, alloxymid, ametryn, amitrole, anilazine, anilofos, asulam, atrazine, azinphos-methyl, benazolin, benfluralin, benfuresate, bensulide, bentazone, benzofenap, bifenox, bromacil, brombutide, bromoxynil, butachlor, butamifos, butenachlor, butylate, carfentrazone-ethyl, chloramben, chlorbromuron, chlorbufam, chlorimuron, chlornitrofen, chlorotoluron, chlorthiamid, cinmethylin, clomoxone, clopyralid, cyanazine, cycloate, 2,4-D, daimuron, desmetryn, dicamba, dichlobenil, dichloroprop-P, diclofop-methyl, dimefuron, dimepiperate, dimethachlor, dimethatryn, dimehtenamid, dinitramine, dinoterb, dithiopyr, esprocarb, ethafluralin, ethofumesate, ethoxyfen-ethyl, fenoxaprop, fenuron, flamprop-M-isopropyl, flamprop-M-methyl, fluazifop, fluchloralin, flufenacet, flumioxazin, fluometuron, fluoroglycofen, flupoxam, fluridone, flurochloridone, flurprimidol, flurtamone, fluthiacet-methyl, fomesafen, glufosinate, haloxyfop, ioxynil, isoxaflutole, lactofen, linuron, mecoprop, mecoprop-P, mefenacet, metazachlor, metobenzuron, metobromuron, metolachlor, metoxuron,

monolinuron, naproanilide, napropamide, naptalam, norflurazon, orbencarb, oxadiazon, oxyfluorfen, pebulate, pendimethalin, picloram, pretilachlor, prodiamine, prometon, prometryn, propachlor, propanil, propisochlor, propyzamide, prosulfocarb, pyrazoxyfen, pyributicarb, siduron, tebuthiuron, terbacil, terbumeton, terbuthylazine, terbutryn, thiazopyr, thiobencarb, tiocarbazil, triallate, triclopyr and trifluralin.

8. A solid granule which comprises about

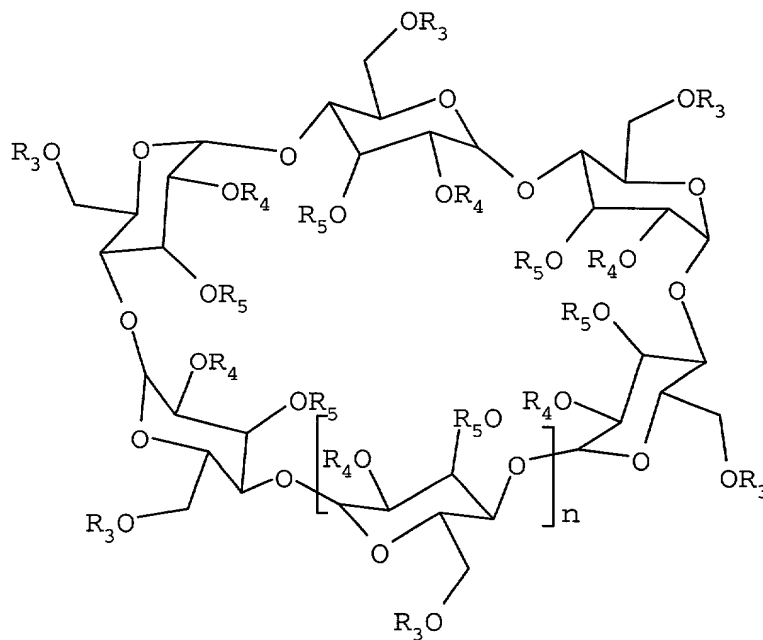
- (a) 0.1 to 100 g/kg of at least one herbicidal compound of formula I;



wherein A, B, R1, X, W and m are defined as in claim 1; and

- (b) 900 to 999.9 g/kg of one or more solid carrier selected from the group consisting of granular gypsum, clays such as kaolin or bentonite, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinylacetate, cyclodextrin, sugar and mixtures or co-polymers thereof and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.

9. A solid granule according to Claim 8, wherein the solid carrier is a cyclodextrin of formula II



II

wherein

R3, R4 and R5 each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-4 alkyl, C1-4 alkanoyl or a C1-4 hydroxyalkyl group; and
n is 1, 2 or 3.

10. A solid granule according to Claim 9, wherein the solid carrier is a cyclodextrin of formula II, wherein R3, R4 and R5 each represent a hydrogen atom and n is 2.

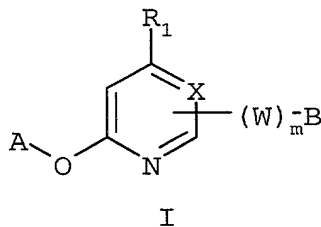
11. A solid granule according to Claim 8, which comprises

- (b1) 50 to 250 g/kg of one or more cyclodextrin of formula II; and
- (b2) 650 to 949.9 g/kg of one or more solid carrier selected from the group consisting of granular gypsum, clays such as kaolin or bentonite, silica, inorganic salts, polyvinylpyrrolidone,

polyvinylacetate, sugar and mixtures or co-polymers thereof and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.

12. A method for the control of undesired weeds at a locus which comprises treating said locus with a solid granule which consists essentially of

- (a) 0.1 to 100 g/kg of at least one herbicidal compound of formula I;



wherein A, B, R₁, X, W and m are defined as in claim 1; and

- (b) 900 to 999.9 g/kg of one or more solid carrier selected from the group consisting of granular gypsum, clays such as kaolin or bentonite, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinylacetate, cyclodextrin, sugar and mixtures or co-polymers thereof and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.

13. A method according to Claim 12 wherein said weeds are Galium spp. or Alopecurus spp.